

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Tuesday, December 19. 1716.

I Have long insisted upon the Errors of the Age, I mean in their Party Capacity; I have told you what every Party have had the Folly to expect from this Parliament, and have taken upon me a little to Prophesie the particular Disappointments they shall all meet — I shall leave them now a while to their Fate, and shall retire me from the Chamour of the Parties: I shall perhaps please my self, at seeing every Thing I have foretold of these Things, come to pass — And while the *Jacobites* and *High Flyers* Curse this Author, I shall laugh at them in my turn, satisfying my self to see them as little Masters of their

Passions in their Disappointments, as they were of their Senses in the Expectation.

And really I cannot but say, the Folly of our Parties can never better appear, than in the senseless Hopes, and wild Expectations they have own'd to have, in the Proceedings of the Parliament and Government, since our late Changes; I am now in *Scotland*, and here we talk openly, we *Jacobites* I mean, that this Parliament shall repeal the Succession, recall the Pretender, and explode the Revolution; That the present Ministry shall Treat with *France* on the main Point of bringing in the Pretender, and that the Queen, *(God bless her Majesty)*

Majesty in the Possession but till that time) shall demit to him : You must Note, her Majesty's Speech to the Parliament, tho' I know it is spoken, is not yet come down to *Edinburgh*, and the *Jacobites*, by Consequence, nor quite undeceiv'd, and therefore these are their common Sayings.

Now as nothing can be more *Lunatick* than these Things—So unless I had seen and heard it, and had a Thousand Witnesses to prove they are in earnest, when they talk thus, I could not have been so *Lunatick* as to have thought it possible; but whether will not Party-blindness drive Mankind?—Can any Thing be express'd in Words more Contradictory than these Things?—What a High Flying Tory Party may Aim at, Plot for, and flatter themselves with Expectations of, from Rabbles, Tumults, and Divisions among Protestants, I will not answer for—Nay, I will not say, but the prevailing of a Tory Party in *Britain*, may, in Time, lead us to the Destruction of our Liberty, Religion, and Government, as the Consequences; but whatever it can be done Parliamentarily, I deny as Impracticable, and I think in a Sense impossible, and therefore I have so often said, *High-Flying* Projects would not be the Business of a *Parliament*, but that whatever they were before, they would be Whigs when they came there—

The Parliament is indeed a Magnipotent Creature, but I think, it differs from all the Sensitive or Rational part of the Creation, and that particularly in this, that it cannot be *Felo de se*, it cannot, *Parliamentarily speaking*, destroy itself; it cannot *Act* against its own Constitution; the Reason is, That its Power to *Act Parliamentarily*, ceases, before that self-Murder I speak of, can be brought to pass—The Succession of the Crown, the Establishment of the Revolution, the Union, the Settlement of the respective Churches—These are Things Constituted now, by the same Power which Constituted the Parliament of *Britain*; and speaking with all Deference and Respect to the present Parliament, in my Opinion, ARE RESERV'D by that Constituting Power, from the Parliament of *Britain*, as Things

which it has no Power to Alter—And on this Account it is, that I say, The *Parliament* cannot be *felo de se*—This Opinion of mine, is fortify'd by this Argument, drawn from the *Treaty of Union* itself, viz. That there are sundry Things mention'd in the said Treaty, which it is left in the Power of the Parliament, and is expressly stipulated, that the said Parliament shall have Power to alter them; this, to me, strongly implies, That there are sundry Things, which the said *Parliament* cannot alter; nay, some will say it implies, that all other Things but what are not so express'd, may not be alter'd—But I shall not go that length.

But on the other Hand, there are Things which are stipulated expressly by the Treaty, not to be left, no, not to the Parliament of *Britain* to alter; such as the Church of *Scotland* in particular, and the Church of *England*; in both which, it is expressly agreed, That the Worship, Discipline, and Government of either Churches, shall be, and remain, to the respective Subjects, without any Alteration; mark that Word ANY, whether by Parliament or otherwise, to all succeeding Generations.

I cannot but recommend this, to those Gentlemen who would fain talk of a Toleration of Episcopacy in *Scotland*, and the bringing Innovations in Worship upon that People.

When then the Parliament of *Britain* can do, and cannot do a Thing at the same time; when they destroy the Power that Constituted them, and make that cease to be, which they did not Create—When the Parliament can Vote themselves no Parliament, and then *Act* as a Parliament, when they cease to be a Parliament—When they can kill themselves, and then live after they have done it—THEN, and not till then, can the Parliament of *Britain* in a Parliamentary Capacity, repeal the Succession, and call in the Pretender.

Again, Will a Beautiful Woman with a large Fortune, Marry'd to a tender loving Husband, and having by that Marriage a large Family of Comely, Dutiful, and Pleasant Children—And passionately loving that Husband

band and her Children; Will she quit the Estate in which she has a full Possession by Jointure, abandon her dear Children, and admit the Right in her Husband, in Favour of a W. . . . ? Will she do this? *Perhaps she will*: As the honest Citizen said, that was made to believe, *Six French-men Stole away the Monument, and were carrying it over London Bridge, but being stop'd by the Watch, were oblig'd to carry it back again, and set it where they had it*; SUCH A THING MAY BE, said the Innocent; BUT 'TIS VERY UNLIKELY ——— Now tho' such a Thing should be ——— Yet of such a Thing as the Queen of Britain demitting to the Pretender — THAT CAN NEVER BE; it would be almost as Foolish to go about to argue against it, as it is sordid and absurd to suggest it; *I say it cannot be*; To say her Majesty will not, would be unmanly, but I think, with Humble Submission, *Her Majesty cannot*; the Queen is Married to the Nation, her Coronation is a *Wedding the People*; her Majesty cannot sue out a Divorce; her Majesty cannot abandon the Protection of her Subjects, the Defence of the Laws, the Regard to their Liberties, and Religion; the Coronation Oath is her Majesty's Marriage Covenant ——— The Husband cannot be dissolv'd from the Bond and Obligation to the Wife, or the Wife to the Husband; *No, tho' they were both to agree in it*; They cannot be separated, but on the express Crimes stipulated in the Contract, viz. ADULTERY; this Dissolves the Obligation of Marriage, and nothing else.

Nothing but Tyranny can Dissolve the Obligation here: TYRANNY, is a *State Adultery* on this Occasion, and no other; Nations may Sue out a Divorce against their Prince, and look upon the Marriage as dissolv'd and void.

The like in Sovereigns to their People; Rebellion in Subjects, is a Popular Tyranny, and is State Adultery in the other Part, and a Sovereign may Lawfully Renounce the Government of such a People ——— But a Legally Ruling Sovereign, over an Obedient People, the Laws have join'd them, let no man put them asunder; that is, no

Man may put them asunder, no, nor may they separate themselves.

I could illustrate this from Scripture — Where first, God the Supreme Sovereign, has cast off the Government of a People for their Rebellion — And this is express in the Case of the Children of *Israel*.

And where God for the Tyranny of the Sovereign, has dissolv'd the Allegiance of the People, even in Kings, who were so *jure Divino*, being made so by his own immediate Hand.

All these People therefore as I said before, must, of necessity, be disappointed in this Parliament, nay, they are already disappointed, and the *Jacobites* in the North of *Britain* begin already to say it is all a Sham; That they have chang'd Hands in hopes of their Master being restor'd, but it is all come to nothing, and they are but where they were before; may the Truth of that be confirm'd, in every Step this Parliament shall take — And as the Enemy shall be disappointed in their Hopes, may Honest Men be disappointed in their Fears; and here I shall leave Things a while to their Event; *God Reigns, his Enemies shall be scatter'd, and they that hate him shall see before him*.

I shall now resume the Affair of National Credit, which is a Subject has suffer'd various Convulsions, from the Levity and Folly of the Times, and some, since I had the opportunity to say any Thing of it.

That coy Lady, of whom I have occasionally endeavour'd to give you some Acquaintance, has suffer'd really very hard Things among us — I gave you some of her History in a late Paper; I told you who brought her over hither, who brought her to be in Love with our Climate, and how far he Bugag'd her, to take up her Residence among us; I gave you an Account how she was frighted almost out of her Wits, by the *Sackeverell's Mob*, how she fled into the City, endeavour'd to get a Lodging in the *Bank*, being loth to leave a Place she had so long liv'd in ——— But when she heard that the Mob talk'd of going in *Mr. Shomer's Meeting-House*, which was next Door to it, and knowing how

case a Prey she might be to them, she hid herself in a Rich Merchants House in This Merchant, Charm'd with her Beauty, Entertain'd her cheerfully at first — But thinking to make a Prey of her, he attempted very basely to Ravish her one *Tuesday*, being a Foreign Post Night — But she seeing him draw *Bill*,

where he had 'no Effect', presuming upon his having her in Possession — She suspected the Fraud, forsook him, caus'd all his Bills to come back Protested, and he has had the loss of her Acquaintance ever since.

She has had several Changes in her Circumstances since that, of which I may give you an Account in my next.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Just Publish'd in Opposition to a spurious one lately Printed,

THE Impartial Secret History of *Arlus*, *Fortunatus*, and *Odolpus*, Ministers of State to the Empress of *Grand Insula*, in which are discover'd the True and Just Causes of the Removal of *Arlus*, who by his *T——* Ad——n, rather deserv'd *H——n's* Pun——t, than *Mordecai's* Preferment; and Justice is done to the Character of *Fortunatus* and *Odolpus*, and they prov'd to have discharged their Trusts with equal Honour, Honesty, and Success. Humbly offer'd to those Good People of *Grand Insula* who Love their Country, are not bigotted to a *Party*, and blinded by the Fulsome Flatteries bestow'd on *Arlus* by a Gang of Mercenaries, Price 6d.

The Volatile Cleanser and Strengthen-
ner of the Reins.

BEING a most noble Specifick, Elixir of Minerals, which brings away visibly, by the Urine, all Relicks of Venereal Injuries; scouring the Reins of all Foulness Filth, Slime, or Matter, that either obstructs the free Passage of the Urine, causes Sharpness of it, or too frequent Occasions to make it, Stranguries, Ulcers, &c. tho' of the longest Date. These Maladies are known by Pains and Weakness in the Back, Threads, Skins, Films, or Hairs

flying about, or Matter settling at the Bottom of the Urine, its strong Smell, &c. than which together with Gleet (the chief Cause being from the foulness of the Reins, tho' sometimes Weakness only) nothing is more common after ill Venereal Cures. It not only cleanses, but also after a peculiar manner, most powerfully strengthens the Reins, recovers their lost Tone, and brings all those Parts and Passages into their right Order, in both Sexes. Price, half a Guinea a Bottle, with Directions seal'd up, which is generally enough to cure any one Person. To be had at Mr. Lawrence's Toy-Shop, at the Griffin the Corner of Bucklers-Bury, in the Poultry

THIS bighest Compoundd Spirit of Lavender: The most Glorious (if the Expression may be us'd) Enlivening Scent and Flavour that can possibly be: In Vapours, sick Fits, Faintings, &c. smells to, or dropt upon a bit of Loaf Sugar, and eaten or dissolv'd in Wine, Coffee, Tea, or what Liquor you please, so Charms the Spirits, delights the Gust, and gives such Aids to the Countenance, as are not to be imagin'd but by those that have try'd it. The meanest sort of the Thing is admir'd by most Gentlemen and Ladies, but this far more, as by far it exceeds it, to the gain- ing among all more common Esteem. To be sold only (in neat Glass Bottles fit for the Pocket) at 3s. 6d. each, at the Golden Key in Martons Court, near Holborn Bars.

Printed for and sold by John Baker at the Black-Boy in
Pater-Noster-Row. 1710.